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The President's Daily Brief

May 1, 1974

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~~Top Secret~~

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

May 1, 1974

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The level of fighting on the Syrian front yesterday was down slightly from that of Monday. *(Page 1)*

The attitude of the Labor government in Britain toward the EC has moderated since the party came to power two months ago. *(Page 2)*

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Notes on Egypt and Vietnam appear on *Page 5*.

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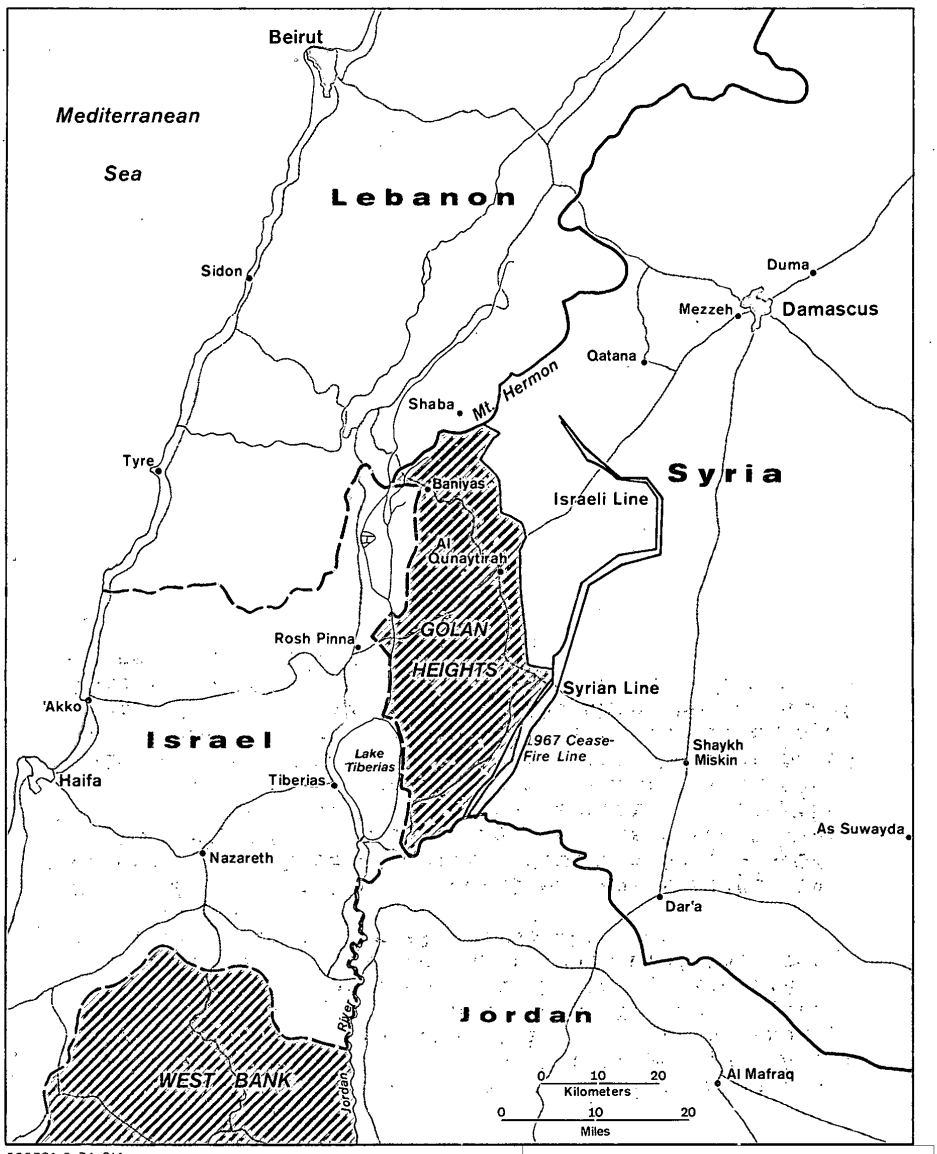

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ISRAEL-SYRIA

The level of fighting on the Syrian front yesterday was down slightly from that of Monday. Artillery fire occurred in several sectors of the front, and Israeli aircraft again attacked Syrian targets in the Mount Hermon area. The Israelis also flew defensive patrols and reconnaissance missions over the front, but no aerial combat was reported.

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UK

The attitude of the Labor government toward the EC has moderated since the party came to power two months ago. At the meeting of the British cabinet's European strategy committee last week, there was no talk of withdrawal or of dismantling the common agricultural policy [redacted] governments have argued that Britain's membership in the EC is a good thing not only for their own countries but for the UK as well. 25X1

Because of the French election, Britain will make its detailed statement on renegotiation at the EC Council meeting of June 4 rather than in May. This additional month will give the government time to consider the substance and tactics of renegotiation more fully and will permit bilateral consultations with other EC members. The key issue in renegotiation will be the UK's contribution to the EC budget, according to the Foreign Office [redacted] 25X1

anti-EC campaign [redacted] wants a referendum before the next general election in order to give the electorate a choice between continued membership on a basis of improved terms or outright withdrawal. 25X1

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USSR-CHINA

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EGYPT-LIBYA-MOROCCO

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NOTES

Egypt: [redacted] 25X1

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Vietnam: Intercepts now confirm a sharp decline in North Vietnamese troop infiltration to South Vietnam. A message of April 27 states that only one infiltration group per week is scheduled to pass through a way station in southern North Vietnam. An intercept from a logistic unit in southern Laos noted that infiltration through Laos to the central highlands and COSVN had ended for the dry season. Troops are still being prepared for infiltration, but there is no indication as to when they will leave. Among those now in training are men who have recently recuperated from illness or wounds.

* * *

[redacted] 25X1

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